

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application, as amended herein, is respectfully requested. This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated December 28, 2004. Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. The claims are not amended herein. Of the claims, only claim 1 is independent.

Section 102(b) Rejection

Claims 1 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US 6,035,228 (Yanof et al.). The rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The Examiner states that the mechanical brake 170 of Yanof has an adjustable braking force for braking the pivot arm in the rotary bearing, as recited in claim 1 of the present application. However, the mechanical brake 170 in Fig. 7 of Yanof stops rotation of lower arm 54 relative to knuckle member 58, and has nothing to do with braking rotation of pivot arms 50, 54, 106 or 114, as indicated by the Examiner, in rotary bearing 58 on stand column 46. Therefore, mechanical brake 170 of Yanof does not correspond to mechanical brake 7 of the present application.

For the reasons above, it is respectfully asked that the rejection of claims 1 and 9-10 under Section 102(b) be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-8 is acknowledged with thanks. In view of Applicant's contention that claim 1 is allowable, dependent claim 2 has not been rewritten in independent form at this stage.

Conclusion

The present response strives to address all issues and to place the present application in a condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is kindly sought. If the Examiner has any questions, the undersigned may be contacted at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,
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